

REMARKS

Applicants submit the present preliminary amendment in the above-identified patent application. Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendments and remarks.

By way of this preliminary amendment, Applicants have amended the first paragraph of the specification to correct and clarify the relationship of the related applications and priority claim of the present application. The amended priority claim is supported by the Application Data Sheet and Filing Receipt of record. No new matter is added by way of this amendment to the specification.

Applicants have also amended the pending claims. Claims 1, 6-9, 11-15, 17-18, and 22-28 are hereby cancelled, without prejudice. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these cancelled claims in one or more continuation applications. Claim 47 is currently amended to remove the term "is" in order to correct a grammatical error. Lastly, new claims 54-59 have been added and are directed to the hydroalcoholic gel pharmaceutical composition recited in claims 43-48. Support for these claims is found throughout the application, including pending claims 43-48, the original claims as filed, and paragraphs [013] - [0143], [0146], [0152] of the published application. Accordingly, claims 43-59 are currently pending, of which claims 43-53 have been previously deemed to be allowable subject matter. No new matter is added by way of these claim amendments.

Applicants respectfully submit that newly submitted claims 54-59 are also in condition for allowance as the composition was presumably searched by the Examiner during prosecution of allowed claims 43-48. In light of the above remarks, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and earnestly solicit timely notice of the same.

Formal Request for Interview

Applicants hereby formally request an in-person interview with the Examiner and Supervising Examiner in view of the present submission of the Request for Continued Examination, Preliminary Amendment, and new Information Disclosure Statements for this application. The Examiner is requested to contact the Applicants' Attorney at (212) 408-2500 to schedule a mutually convenient date and time such that Applicants can provide assistance or additional information as required.

If there are any other issues remaining, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below. Aside from the \$810.00 RCE fee for the Request for Continued Examination, Applicants believe no additional fee is due in connection with this submission. However, if any additional fee is due, or if any overpayment has been made, the commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-4377.

Respectfully submitted,

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